

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 38, 47, 51, and 55 have been amended. Claims 39 and 40 have been cancelled. Accordingly claims 38 and 47-58 remain pending in the application. Claims 38, 47, 51, and 55 are independent.

In the Office Action of November 30, 2004, claims 39, 40, 47, 48, 50-52, 54-56, and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,663,608 issued to Jones et al. Claims 38-40, 47-49, 51-53, and 55-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,657,376 issued to Raina et al. The cancellation of claims 39 and 40 renders some of these rejections moot. With respect to the remaining claims, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

As amended independent claim 38 defines an integrated circuit that includes a first layer of material, a second layer of material, a first device, a second device, and a conductor. The conductor electrically connects the first and second devices. According to the integrated circuit defined by independent claim 38, the conductor includes “a first part and a second part, the first part comprising chromium, the second part comprising aluminum, the first part being wrapped around the second part.”

The Office Action indicates that Jones discloses an integrated circuit including a substrate, a second layer of material, and a conductor. The Office Action also states that the circuit includes a first portion comprising chromium and a second portion comprising aluminum. Alternatively, it is indicated that the second portion can comprise copper. With respect to Raina, the Office Action indicates that the integrated circuit includes a conductor that electrically

connects the first and second devices. In particular, the Office Action indicates that the conductor includes a first part, a second part, and a third part. The first and third parts comprise aluminum, while the second part comprises chromium.

As amended, however, independent claim 38 defines an integrated circuit that includes a conductor having “a first part and a second part, the first part comprising chromium, the second part comprising aluminum, the first part being wrapped around the second part.” This particular configuration is not shown or suggested by the applied references.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that independent claim 38 is not anticipated by any of the art of record.

Independent claim 47 defines an integrated circuit which includes a first layer of material, a second layer of material, a first device, a second device, and a conductor that electrically connects the first and second devices. Similar to independent claim 38, the conductor includes a first part and a second part, with the first part being wrapped around the second part. As previously indicated with respect to independent claim 38, this particular configuration is not shown or suggested by the applied references.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that independent claim 47 is not anticipated by the art of record.

Claims 48-50 depend from independent claim 47, and are therefore believed allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 47.

Independent claims 51 and 55 each define integrated circuits that include a conductor having a first part (or first conductive material) wrapped around a second part (or second conductive material). As previously discussed, this particular arrangement is not shown or suggested by the art of record.

Accordingly, independent claims 51 and 55 are believed allowable over the art of record.

Claims 52-54 and 56-58 depend, respectively, from independent claims 51 and 55. These claims are therefore believed allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claims 51 and 55.

For the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims (38 and 47-58) are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is believed in order, and courteously solicited.


The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account number 08-0219.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of which is required to make this response timely, and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such, to deposit account number 08-0219.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP



Leonid D. Thenor
Registration No. 39,397

1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202.942.8400
Facsimile: 202-942-8484
Date: May 31, 2005